

What does the Constitution Do?

By: Rhythm, Rhyme, Results

Lyrics

Chorus

What does the Constitution do?
What does the Constitution say?
Well listen up and I'll tell you
About the Constitution

Verse I

Article I establishes the Congress
It might seem simple but there's guidelines beyond this
So follow along, y'all, we're in for the long haul
As we explore the details of Congressional Protocol

The House of Representatives, yo, it's mad large
435 representatives in all
They serve for two years, bigger states get more
But you can't be a congressman if you're only 24,

Now in the upper house of Congress, the one called the Senate
There's 100 Senators under the Vice President
Two from every state with a six-year limit,
But you've gotta be 30 or else you can't be in it

The rest of the article sets some more rules
Talks about the powers and the limits, too
But we got six more articles left to go
So if you're enjoying, join in, and check the flow

Chorus

Verse II

Article II sets forth the executive branch
You've got president, vice president, and all that
The president has gotta American-born,
35 years of age or more

The rest of the article says what being President's about:
His powers, his duties, and how we can kick him out

He's Commander-in-Chief of all the military
But let's get to Article III, about the judiciary

It sets up the Court Supreme
With justices regarded in the highest esteem
They serve for life, during all four seasons
And article III, it also defines treason

We've got three articles, we're almost half done
So let's review: we first had Article I
About the legislative branch; executive was II,
Judicial was III. Now you're good? Let's continue.

Chorus

Verse III

Next we got Article IV. It mandates that
The laws of one state are honored by the other states
It also promises full protections
Against invasions or insurrections

Article V describes how we can amend it:
2/3 of each Houses must recommend it
Then 3/4 of the states gotta approve
See, changing up the Constitution's not an easy move

Article VI says this document's the law of the land
And officials of the government must raise their hand
And swear an oath to uphold it, in every situation
And also swear allegiance to the U.S. nation

Article VII, there's not much to it
Says if 9 of the colonies approve then we can use it
Now, every single one of them said it was OK
So the Constitution survives into the present day!

Now we've gone through the Articles, I through VII
We went kind of fast, so if you have any questions
Go back to the top, even make your own edits
A couple times through, I know you're gonna get it

Questions:

- 1. The song states that you can't be in the House of Representatives if you are only 24. What are the 3 requirements to be in the House?**
 - a.**
 - b.**
 - c.**
- 2. Who leads the House of Representatives? (Position and current name)**
- 3. Who leads the Senate in the Vice President's absence? (Position and current name)**
- 4. What are the 3 requirements to be a U.S. Senator?**
 - a.**
 - b.**
 - c.**
- 5. Name 3 powers of the President that aren't mentioned in verse II.**
 - a.**
 - b.**
- 6. How many presidents have been impeached?**
- 7. Who appoints Supreme Court Justices? Who confirms them?**
- 8. List in order the three parts of the Constitution.**
 - a.**
 - b.**
 - c.**